

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/579,769  
Applicant : Peer STAEHLER et al  
Filed : July 24, 2006  
TC/A.U. : 1637  
Examiner : David C. Thomas

Docket No. : 2923-754  
Customer No. : 6449  
Confirmation No.: 5685

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 28, 2009, please consider the amendment and remarks contained on the following pages. With a request for a three-month extension of time, Applicants submit that this response is being timely filed on or before March 29, 2010 (March 28, 2010 is a Sunday).

Please amend the above-identified application as follows.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 10 of this paper.